

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

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EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ACDA-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 INT-05
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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2906
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 6092

EO 11652 NA
TAGS TGEN XV BR
SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN INTEREST IN ANTARCTIC

REF: SANTIAGO 3309

1. SCICOUN MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE FOR ANTARCTIC STUDIES (IBEA-NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION) TO REVIEW PRESENT STATUS OF INTEREST IN ANTARCTIC RESEARCH. IBEA SAID IT SENT TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ANTARCTIC DEVELOPMENT, AT CHILEAN INVITATION, WHO WERE ACCOMPANIED BY OBSERVERS FROM FON MIN, NAVY AND CNPQ. ALL BRAZILIAN STATEMENTS AT SYMPOSIUM (REFTEL) WERE MADE BY IBEA REPS.

2. ARTICLE, DATELINED BRASILIA, IN "O ESTADO DE S.PAULO" SAID THAT GOB HAD INITIATED CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER ANTARCTIC TREATY MEMBERS (INCLUDING ARGENTINA AND CHILE) ON PARTICIPATION AS OBSERVER IN LONDON CONFERENCE, WITHOUT RESPONSE BY END OF MAY. "O ESTADO" POINTED OUT THAT GOB HAD NOT YET FULFILLED CONDITIONS OF ARTICLE 9, PARA 2 OF TREATY BUT WAS STUDYING CAREFULLY POSSI-
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BILITY OF MOUNTING SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION ON STATION. MINISTER OF NAVY REPORTEDLY CAUTIONED OTHERS ON COMPLEXITY OF SUCH MISSION. NEWS ARTICLE DISCUSSED LACK OF SPECIFICITY IN TREATY FOR DEALING WITH RESOURCE EXPLOITATION IN ANTARCTIC AND SUGGESTED THAT NEW MULTILATERAL DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE. ARTICLE POINTED OUT THAT "NON-TERRITORIAL" ADHERENTS TO TREATY NOW OUTNUMBER "TERRITORIALISTS"

SO THAT RESOURCE EXPLOITATION ISSUE TRANSCENDS SOVERIEGNTY CLAIMS.
ALLEGEDLY, GOB FON MIN IS COUNTING ON COLLABORATION OF ITS
NEIGHBBOURS IN SOUTH AMERICA TO INCREASE ITS CONCRETE
PARTICIPATION IN TREATY ACTIVITIES. (ARTENTINA AMBASSADOR TO
BRAZIL WAS QUOTED IN STATEMENTS SUPPORTIVE OF BRAZILIAN ACTIVITIES
IN ANTARCTIC AND FULLER TREATY PARTICIPATION).
ARTICLE REPREATED ALLEGATION MADE AT SYMPOSIUM THAT CHILE WELCOMES
BRAZIL AS POSSIBLE FUTURE PARTNER IN ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION.

3. ACCORDING TO IBEA REPS, GOB WILL SOON DECLARE IBEA A "NON-PROFIT
INSTITUTION OPERATING IN PUBLIC INTEREST" AND CHANNEL GOVERNMENT
FUNDS TO IT FOR ANTARCTIC RESEARCH (EG, SHIP RENTAL, FINANCING
EXPEDITION, PERMANENT ANTARCTIC STATION, ETC). BOG INTEREST IS
NOW MUCH BROADER THAN STUDY OF WEATHER EFFECTS OF ANTARCTIC
ON BRAZIL. IBEA STATED IT HAS APPLIED FOR ADMISSION TO SCIENTIFIC
COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC RESEARCH (SCAR) AND APPEALED TO EMBASSY FOR
USG SUPPORT FOR ITS ADMISSION. IBEA DIRECTOR DR. PINTO COELHO
PERSONALLY FELT BRAZIL SHOULD ACHIEVE FULL STATUS BEFORE POLAND
ENTERS CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

4. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH BRAZILIAN NAVY, EMBASSY HAS ENCOUNTERED
GENERAL INTEREST IN ANTARCTIC ISSUES BUT NO SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS
ATTENDING TO ANTARCTIC NOR DEFINITE PLANS TO PURSUE OR SUPPORT
THIS INTEREST WITHIN GOB.
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Message Attributes

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